HAROLD WEISBERG
7627 OLD RECEIVER RD
FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21702

8/18/93

DEAR HAROLD,

THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER OF 8/6/93 AND CONGRATS ON YOUR 51ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. MY WIFE AND I CELEBRATED OUR 22ND IN JULY, BUT COMPARED TO YOU, IT HARDLY SEEMS WORTH MENTIONING. HA.

I REGRET THE THEFT/LOSS OF YOUR BEST EVIDENCE ANALYSIS. I AM FASCINATED BY ALL THIS CONTROVERSY AND AGONIZE OVER NOT KNOWING SPECIFICALLY WHAT OR WHO TO BELIEVE REGARDING THE CONFLICTING STATEMENTS, THE VARIOUS THEORIES, THE CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES (YOU, LIFTON, GRODEN, LIVINGSTON, CROUCH ET. AL) MAKE ABOUT THE MEDICAL EVIDENCE, THE PHOTOS AND LIFTON'S THEORIES. I REGRET NOT KNOWING THE SPECIFICS OF WHAT YOU KNOW. IT'S SO IMPORTANT!!

AN ASSOCIATE OF MINE BROUGHT THE BETHESDA TECHNICIANS TOGETHER LAST DECEMBER AND VIDEOTAPED THEIR RECOLLECTIONS — REIBE, DENNIS DAVID, JENKINS, O'CONNOR, CUSTER. IT'S AMAZING VIEWING. I CAN TELL YOU THAT THOSE MEN BELIEVE THAT THE AUTOPSY PHOTOS SHOWING JFK'S (BACK OF) HEAD ARE FAKE.

AS I PROMISED, I WROTE TO

EVICA IN AN EFFORT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS "DISINFORMATION AGENT" POSITION PAPER BUSINESS.

TODAY I RECEIVED A HEFTY PACKET FROM EVICA WHICH INCLUDED A FOUR PAGE LETTER FROM EVICA TO ME, JACK WHITE, JIM MARRS AND GARY MACK, DATED 8/14/93. (I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF IT ALTHOUGH I FEAR ITS CONTENTS MIGHT ENRAGE YOU ALL OVER AGAIN).

THIS WOULD BE AN UNFORTUNATE IRONY SINCE MY ROLE HERE IS SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF THE OBJECTIVE, UNEFFECTED PEACE MEDIATOR. (AT LEAST, THAT'S MY VIEWPOINT).

MR. EVICA ALSO INCLUDED WROME'S 5/2/93 POSITIVE APPRAISAL OF YOU, YOUR LETTERS TO EVICA OF 6/21/93 AND 7/7/93, EVICA'S LETTER TO YOU OF 6/25/93, ROSE'S LETTER TO YOU OF 7/21/93, DRAGO'S LETTER TO YOU OF 7/15/93, YOUR LETTERS TO EVICA OF 7/14/93 AND 7/15/93 AND 8/4/93.... AND FINALLY EVICA'S LETTER OF 8/8/93 TO YOU. WHEW.

MY FIRST REACTION AFTER READING ALL OF THIS IS — HOLY SHIT.! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PLAY PEACE MAKER AFTER ALL

OF THESE LETTERS.

I KNOW ONE THING FOR SURE. JUST AS IN THE CASE OF THE LIFTON / FEINMAN SITUATION, I'M GLAD I'M NOT TRULY INVOLVED AND I HAVE NO INTENT OR DESIRE TO GET CAUGHT UP IN ALL OF THIS EITHER.

HOWEVER, I BELIEVE I HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO TRY TO CALMLY SORT OUT WHAT WENT WRONG, AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT.

HERE GOES. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT CHARLES DRAGO, I HAVEN'T DEALT WITH EVICA BEFORE AND MY DEALINGS WITH ROSE HAVE BEEN LIMITED, LONG AGO, AND BASICALLY AS AN EDITOR TO WRITER LEVEL. THUS I HAVE NO HIDDEN AGENDAS.

FOR STARTERS, THESE MEN (EVICA, I GUESS) SHOULD HAVE CONTACTED YOU FIRST TO EXPLAIN WHAT THEY HAD IN MIND AND WHY. . . . HOWEVER ROSE AND DRAGO IN THEIR LETTERS TO YOU ACCEPTED BLAME FOR THIS. THEY APOLOGIZED FOR BEING INAPPROPRIATE AND UNINTENTIONALLY "HURTING" YOU.

DRAGO UNDERSTOOD YOUR ANGER AND I DO TOO. I'D BE MIGHTY PISSED MYSELF.

INTEND TO MALIGN, UPSET, AND HURT YOU.

I'M REMINDED OF WHAT MY FATHER USED TO SAY — "IF YOU ARGUE WITH A FOOL, THERE ARE TWO FOOLS ARGUING". HENRY HURT CALLED HIS FEUD WITH GARY MACK — "A SKUNK PISSING CONTEST ... NO ONE WINS"

NOW I'M NOT CALLING ANYONE A FOOL OR SKUNK, GOD FORBID. /HA./

BUT I THINK IT'S BEST TO CLOSE THE DOOR ON ALL OF THIS. THESE MEN HAVE TRIED HONORABLY THROUGHOUT THE YEARS TO PURSUE THE CASE. GRANTED, THEY AREN'T HAROLD WEISBERG. LIKE ME, OVER THE YEARS, THEY MAY BELIEVE CERTAIN THINGS ABOUT THE CASE AND EVENTUALLY LEARN THEY WERE WRONG. I CERTAINLY KNOW A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THIS CASE, BUT COMPARED TO YOU, I'M AN IGNORANT MAN, I SUPPOSE. HOWEVER, I HAVE, UPON OCCASION, AIDED YOU. TRUE? ALSO, I KNOW SOME THINGS YOU DON'T, TRUE?

THUS IF I AM IGNORANT OF MANY AREAS (IE LIFTON'S THEORY AS AN UNMITIGATED FRAUD, AS YOU SAY), I'LL ACCEPT THAT, BUT I WOULD HOPE YOU WOULD GIVE ME SOME

MY NEXT REACTION IS BASED ON MY OWN INSTINCTS, SINCE I CAN'T PROVE I'M RIGHT ON THIS NEXT POINT, BUT I BET I'M RIGHT.

WHILE I'VE NEVER MET LIVINGSTONE, HIS REPUTATION IS UGLY. MY ASSOCIATES CALL HIM SELF-SERVING, CAUSTIC, POMPOUS, BIASED, DISHONEST, OBSESSIVE/COMPULSIVE .... AN ASSHOLE!

I THINK YOU ASSUMED THAT EVICA, DRAGO, ROSE WERE, IN SOME CAPACITY, ADVANCED AD HOMINEM MEN FOR LIVINGSTONE, AND I BET THAT IS ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE. IN FACT I BET EVICA, DRAGO, AND ROSE AREN'T FOND OF LIVINGSTONE AT ALL EITHER.

ONCE THE NAME CALLING BEGINS, NOTHING NICE CAN RESULT. I APPRECIATE YOUR ANGER, I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR FRUSTRATION AT NOT RECEIVING IMMEDIATE RESPONSES, AND I KNOW YOU'RE ALREADY FIT TO BE TIED OVER LIFTON/HOOD COLLEGE/FEINMAN, YOUR IMPENDING BOOK PRESSURES, THE LOSS OF THE LIFTON ANALYSIS, YOUR HEALTH, THE OLIVER STONE CONTROVERSY, AND THE FORTHCOMING LIVINGSTONE BOOK, BUT I HONESTLY DON'T BELIEVE THESE GUYS

RESPECT AS A SINCERE SMALL FISH IN A BIG POND WHO CONTRIBUTED IN SOME POSITIVE MANNER . . . EVEN IF I UNWITTINGLY BELIEVE SOME THINGS THAT YOU KNOW AREN'T TRUE.

SIX OR SEVEN YEARS AGO YOU THOUGHT I WAS UNDERMINING YOUR REPUTATION WHEN RITA ASKED TO SEE A FEW LETTERS CRITICAL OF YOU WRITTEN BY FRED NEWCOMB. REMEMBER? YOU WENT NUTS.' (I EVEN HESITATE TO BRING THIS UP AGAIN FOR FEAR YOU WILL GET ANGRY AGAIN).

HELL, I MEANT NO HARM AND RITA CERTAINLY DIDN'T. SHE "VIRTUALLY" LOVED/TRUSTED ONLY YOU AND ME. I TRIED MY BEST SEVERAL TIMES TO EXPLAIN TO YOU THAT ONLY RITA SAW THE LETTERS AND WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT THEM. I NEVER PUT ANY STOCK IN NEWCOMB'S ACCUSATIONS JUST AS I IGNORED JOHANN RUSH'S ALLEGATIONS.

AS FOR MARRS AND WHITE, GARY MACK, WHOM I CONSIDER A FRIEND, WILL HAVE TO RESOLVE THAT END OF IT.

YES, I THINK THE THIRD DECADE DISINFORMATION PAPER WAS A POORLY CONCEIVED IDEA. YES, YOU DESERVED BEING CONTACTED

PS YOUR REAL WAR IS CLEARLY WITH LIVINGSTONE / LIFTON, NOT THESE GUYS. (7)

AHEAD OF TIME AND IMMEDIATELY ONCE YOU CONFRONTED THEM, BUT I BELIEVE THERE IS NOTHING MORE TO IT.

I'LL CONCLUDE BY SAYING THAT AS AN OBJECTIVE OBSERVER, THIS IS MOST UNFORTUNATE AND DOES NOT FURTHER OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CASE. SOMETIMES WE, CRITICS, ARE OUR OWN WORST ENEMIES.

HELL, I'M FAR FROM PERFECT. I CAN BLOW IT JUST AS EASY AS THE NEXT GUY, BUT I'VE LEARNED A FEW THINGS FROM THIS INCIDENT. (WHICH IS FORTUNATE SINCE I WASN'T INVOLVED). I ALSO KNOW THAT INSULTS ARE LIKE STONES. ONCE THROWN, THEY CAN NEVER BE RETRIEVED. I THINK YOU GUYS OUGHT TO BURY THE HATCHET AND FOCUS ON SEARCHING FOR HISTORICAL TRUTHS INSTEAD OF ONE ANOTHER'S HEADS.

WITH MY LUCK, ALL FOUR OF YOU WILL END UP PISSED AT ME, AND BEST OF FRIENDS WITH ONE ANOTHER. HA.—

PS WE CAN'T EVEN GET OUR NAMES RIGHT. YOU CALLED EVICA ... EVITA AND HE CALLED ME EDWARD. HA.—

BEST WISHES,

Ed Tatro

EDGAR F. TATRO
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BRAINTREE, MASS.
02184
(SASE ENCLOSED).

PS ONE OTHER ISSUE - ENCLOSED JUNE 9, 1969 DOD APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1970 CONGRESSIONAL HEARING.

SEE P129.

DID UNCLE SAM INVENT/CREATE AIDS.

YOUR REACTION?

Ed